



West Lake Boudreaux Shoreline Protection and Marsh Creation (TE-46)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2002 **Cost:** \$14.6 million
Project Area: 1,177 acres **Status:** Engineering and Design
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 145 acres
Project Type: Shoreline Protection and Marsh Creation

Location

The project is located in the Terrebonne Basin along the western shoreline of Lake Boudreaux in Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana.

Problems

The west bank of Lake Boudreaux has experienced high erosion rates due to wind-driven waves and high water. The entire historical lake rim is gone, exposing the inorganic soil of the interior marsh to high-energy wave action. The remaining shoreline is approximately 600-900 feet in width and has been breached in several places. If this erosion is not stopped, the interior marsh and adjacent infrastructure will be compromised. Continued shoreline loss will convert the productive shallow, open water areas behind the shoreline to a less productive, open lake habitat.



The western shoreline of Lake Boudreaux, south of Chris Lane Canal, showing severe erosion and breaches into the interior portions of the marsh.

Restoration Strategy

The project's objectives include: reducing erosion of the west Lake Boudreaux shoreline to protect 80 acres of emergent marsh and submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV); maintaining the shallow, open water habitat, including its SAV, located west of the lake rim; and creating 124 acres of marsh along the southwestern shoreline of Lake Boudreaux and at interior marsh sites through the deposition of dredged material.

In an effort to lessen or halt shoreline erosion, 11,644 linear feet of rock dike will be constructed in two sections along the western shoreline of Lake Boudreaux, from Hog Point south to Hog Point Canal. This will include "fish dips" for the exchange of material, nutrients, and organisms between the interior marsh and the lake's main body. Elsewhere, earthen plugs will be constructed to prevent unwanted water exchange.

The project will also construct 4,000 linear feet of earthen dike and 4 earthen plugs to contain the hydraulically dredged material that will be used to create the marsh.

In addition, existing openings will be enlarged and/or new openings created in the pumping station spoil bank to facilitate the exchange of water and organisms between the project area's north and south ponds.

Progress to Date

This project was selected for Phase I (engineering and design) funding at the January 2002 Breaux Act Task Force meeting. It is included as part of Priority Project List 11.

For more project information, please contact:



Federal Sponsor:
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Lafayette, LA
(337) 291-3100



Local Sponsor:
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
Baton Rouge, LA
(225) 342-7308



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- Fish Dips
- Earthen Plug
- Inside Dike
- External Dike
- Direct Impact
- Project Boundary



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Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station

Background Imagery:
1998 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangles
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